TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

A3275-2

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, June 11, 1992 -- All three general measures of rail freight traffic -- carloadings, intermodal and ton-miles -- rose again last week, the Association of American Railroads reported.

Carloadings during the week ended June 6 rose 1.2 percent from the comparable week last year, with volume up 1.4 percent in the East and 1.0 percent in the West. Intermodal volume, which is not included in carloadings, jumped 12.5 percent to 132,240 trailers and containers. Ton-miles were up 3.0 percent to 20.6 billion.

"Rail traffic so far this year reflects a buoying economy," said Dr. Harvey A. Levine, vice president of the AAR's economics and finance department. "Traffic has been up 16 consecutive weeks," he noted, adding that for the first 23 weeks of this year intermodal traffic is up a strong 9.1 percent over last year, and all other traffic is up an average of 2.5 percent.

"These respectable trends are reflected generally across the board, with coal and, over the past five weeks, lumber and wood products lagging the pattern."

For the first 23 weeks of 1992, carloadings totalled 7,403,473, up 2.5 percent over 1991. Intermodal volume totalled 2,848,500, up 9.1 percent over 1991. Ton-mileage totalled 467.4 billion, up 4.8 percent.

Railroads reporting to the AAR account for 94 percent of all rail carloadings and 97 percent of total intermodal volume.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 6, 1992

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING JUNE 6, 1992	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1991	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	22,626	23,093	-2.0 %	18,508	22.2 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	2,439	1,919	27.1	1,974	23.6
Metallic Ores	18,498	18,200	1.6	19,523	-5.3
Coal	124,090	126,214	-1.7	112,094	10.7
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	14,778	15,325	-3.6	11,964	23.5
Nonmetallic Minerals	9,731	9,468	2.8	8,748	11.2
Grain Mill Products	10,088	9,945	1.4	9,148	10.3
Food & Kindred Products	9,411	8,925	5.4	7,962	18.2
Primary Forest Products	9,269	9,271	0.0	8,399	10.4
Lumber & Wood Products	5,406	6,159	-12.2	5,603	-3.5
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,575	10,551	0.2	11,142	-5.1
Chemicals	28,375	27,477	3.3	27,093	4.7
Petroleum Products	5,696	4,943	15.2	5,041	13.0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,999	9,694	3.1	8,985	11.3
Coke	5,542	4,776	16.0	6,689	-17.1
Metals & Products	9,295	9,550	-2.7	9,153	1.6
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	19,883	17,296	15.0	16,606	19.7
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,839	7,587	16.5	8,183	8.0
All Other Carloads	7,425	7,579	-2.0	6,172	20.3
Total	**331,965**	**327,972**	**1.2 %**	**302,987**	**9.6 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING JUNE 6, 1992 1992	1991	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 23 WEEKS ENDING JUNE 6, 1992 1992	1991	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**331,965**	**327,972**	**1.2 %**	**7,403,473**	**7,221,537**	**2.5 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	67,070	61,544	9.0	1,413,195	1,350,834	4.6
Containers	65,170	55,959	16.5	1,435,305	1,260,450	13.9
Total	**132,240**	**117,503**	**12.5**	**2,848,500**	**2,611,284**	**9.1**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**20.6**	**20.0**	**3.0 %**	**467.4 r**	**445.8**	**4.8 %**

r Cumulative 1992 ton-miles revised to reflect reported ton-miles for 1st Quarter 1992.

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